

Providing heating fuel to Al-Hadher families

By Cpl. Robert Yde
2-1 Cav. Public Affairs

BAGHDAD - With most areas in Baghdad receiving a limited amount of electricity each day, families have come to depend on generators to provide power for their homes. While this option is popular, acquiring fuel for a generator can be a problem.

In an effort to help with the fuel shortage, Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 14th Cavalry Regiment, attached to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, in cooperation with the Iraqi national police, distributed kerosene to the residents of the Al-Hadher neighborhood after conducting a joint cordon and search operation in the area Jan. 18.

The neighborhood is one of the poorest in Task Force 1-14's area of operations and it was evident by the crowd's enthusiasm that the kerosene was greatly needed.

"Out of our sector, this is



(Photo by Cpl. Robert Yde, 2-1 Cav. Public Affairs)

Capt. Adam Grim, commander of Troop C, 1st Battalion, 14th Cavalry Regiment, attached to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, fills up a kerosene container for a young resident of Al-Hadher Jan. 18.

probably the neediest and poorest neighborhood," explained platoon leader, 1st Lt. Stephen Hornsberger. "If they needed the kerosene anywhere, it was

probably here."

After spending a couple of hours searching homes in the area, Soldiers and police officers carried the cans of

kerosene around the neighborhood as the locals flocked to

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Cavalry Soldiers search cemetery, looking for weapons caches after tip

By Spc. Chris McCann
2-10 Mtn. Public Affairs

STRONG POINT 142, Iraq - Multi-National Division - Baghdad troops made a careful entry into a Muslim cemetery near the former Qaqaa Water Treatment Facility on the banks of Iraq's Euphrates River Jan. 12 to search for weapons caches.

Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, attached to the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team,

10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) had been told by local Iraqi residents that terrorists used the cemetery for storing weapons, skirted the area on a reconnaissance mission the night before ensuring that the area was clear.

At first light the next morning, 2-5 Cav troopers set out with four Iraqi Army soldiers. They waded through canals and across muddy fields to enter the cemetery.

"Don't step on any graves," said Company A commander Capt. Richard Ince of Georgetown, Texas, as his Soldiers

began moving in.

Two Soldiers had mine detectors and scanned suspicious-looking areas as other troops moved among the graves, careful not to step on them. Many graves were elaborately protected with concrete or stone covers, but most were simply raised mounds of earth, marked with wedges of palm wood or chunks of stone.

"It was awesome," said Spc. Matthew Fitzpatrick, a native of Philadelphia, and a

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Respecting the dead:

Troops conduct delicate cache search in Iraqi cemetery

Search

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rifleman with the company. "We've never been through a graveyard looking for caches."

No caches were recovered,

although several tank rounds were recovered from various places.

"We really didn't find everything we wanted," said Sgt. James Farris, a rifleman and native of Tullahoma, Tenn.

"But we did find things that might have benefited the anti-Iraqi forces and interrupted our movement."

Ince had an idea as to why caches weren't found - the weapons are hidden there on a

very short-term basis only for quick pick-up by terrorists. He said the joint operation was successful because of the teamwork exhibited between his Soldiers Iraqi Army troops.

"It's always good when we're working with the IA," Ince said. "They're good guys and motivated to patrol. They're very much a help. The Iraqi Army soldiers are our most valuable asset and combat force multiplier."

Operations in areas like cemeteries are delicate, due to the emotional and religious overtones, but they can be critically important if terrorists are using them as staging areas.

"I felt we were respectful of the Iraqi graves," said Spc. Brian Smith of Denver, a civil affairs Soldier with Co. B, 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, who works with 2-5 Cavalry. "It was kind of an uncomfortable situation, but we were respectful."



(Photo by Spc. Chris McCann, 2-10 Mtn. Public Affairs)

Iraqi troops and Soldiers of 2nd Bn., 5th Cav. Reg., attached to the 4th Bn., 31st Inf. Reg., 2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div. (Light Infantry), patrol through a cemetery near the Qaqaa Water Treatment Facility, west of Baghdad Jan. 12. Soldiers of the company searched the cemetery for weapons caches reportedly kept there.

**Arabic Phrase
of the Day**
khaffaf

**Defined:
slow down**

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today

**High: 63
Low: 39**



Tomorrow

**High: 63
Low: 39**



Friday

**High: 64
Low: 38**

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Baghdad in Brief

Four suspects seized with possible links to Karbala attack

KALSU, Iraq - Iraqi Army troops, Multi-National Division - Baghdad Soldiers and a special Iraqi police unit from Hillah teamed up to detain four insurgents suspected of involvement in the Jan. 20 attack at the Karbala Provincial Joint Coordination Center.

Paratroopers with the 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, and Iraqi security forces detained the four suspects Jan. 22 following a tip from a Karbala resident.

The suspects were found in a house near the area where the vehicles used in the attack were abandoned after insurgents made their get away from the scene.

The suspects are being held for further questioning.

Al-Tair'rah Square targeted by double car bombs

BAGHDAD - Two vehicle-borne explosive devices detonated, targeting Iraqis at a local market in the Rusafa section of the Iraqi capital at approximately 12 p.m., Jan. 22.

Soldiers from 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division heard the explosions while operating in a nearby area of Rusafa.

Following the explosion, the unit observed Iraqi police and Iraqi emergency services quickly responding to Al-Tair'rah Square, policing up the wounded and taking them to a local hospital for medical treatment.

Iraqi emergency services are still at the site. Initial reports from the Iraqi police indicate that 39 Iraqi civilians died and 88 more were wounded by the car bomb blasts.

This incident is still under investigation.



(Photo by Spc. Jason Thompson, 4th Inf. Div. Public Affairs)

Handing it off to the big patch

Maj. Gen. Jeffery Hammond receives the 4th Infantry Division's colors from Gen. Charles Campbell, commanding general, U.S. Army Forces Command, signifying his assumption of command during the division's uncasing and change of command ceremony in the Abrams Field House at Fort Hood, Texas Jan. 19. Hammond, a Hattiesburg, Miss., native, previously served with the 1st Cavalry Division at the deputy commanding general - support during Operation Iraqi Freedom II.



**First Team
POWER THOUGHT**



"I CAN SAVE MY OWN LIFE"

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

I am responsible for my own safety both on and off post.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Because I AM important, my friends and family love me,
My unit needs me, and my nation is depending on me.

Soldiers, IP help heat families' homes in Al-Hadher

Fuel

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them with their empty cans.

According to Troop C's commander, Capt. Adam Grim, giving away the kerosene is a goodwill gesture that he hopes will strengthen the developing relationship between the Soldiers, police officers and local residents.

"Our squadron commander talked to all the commanders and basically said, 'What's something good we can do as a positive thing to reintegrate the national police and build trust in the community?'" the Orange Park, Fla. native explained. "The thing we came up with was trying to get them more access to fuel."

Grim said that in the past, the Soldiers and IP have hand-

ed out other things like blankets and clothes, but fuel seems to have the greatest effect.

According to Ahmed Aadel, a police officer with the 1st Battalion, 6th Brigade, 2nd National Police Division, the INP are glad they can provide for the people of Al-Hadher.

"The people here are poor people and they are happy because they get kerosene," Aadel said. "There is nobody here to represent them to get them kerosene."

Since the squadron started handing out kerosene, Grim said that he has seen some change in his interaction with the locals.

"It definitely helps you to get more friendly faces and more waves and people say 'Thank you,'" Grim explained. However, he noted that the fuel

that his Soldiers and the police provide is only enough to last for a few days, and solving the overall problem will take some time.

"It's a little something we can do. It's better than not having anything, and you can

directly see it helping the people," Grim said. "When you can go out and give someone something, or watch the national police give someone something, you know at the end of the day something positive was done."



(Photo by Cpl. Robert Yde, 2-1 Cav. Public Affairs)

Residents of Al-Hadher crowd around an Iraqi national police truck delivering kerosene following a cordon and search operation in the Baghdad neighborhood Jan. 18.



(Photo by Sgt. Richard Kolberg, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment)

Working like a dog, literally

Air Force Staff Sgt. Ian Spivey and his military working dog, Rex, help to search vehicles at a Baghdad traffic control point with members of Battery C, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

Radio operator effective communicator for his platoon

By 1st Lt. Michael Meyers
1st Bn., 5th Cav. Regiment

BAGHDAD - Often, a foreign national who serves in the U.S. military dreams of one day becoming a U.S. citizen.

Many speak other languages, a useful skill for the military. Some are currently serving in Iraq as Soldiers providing freedom and security to the people of Iraq.

One of these Soldiers is

Pfc. Class Mohamed Omar.

"I just want to listen to the people and hear their issues," Omar said about serving in the Iraqi capital. "Maybe I can help."

Omar provides his platoon

a unique attribute - he speaks Arabic. He has been on a variety of missions with Company E, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, which is attached to 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. Omar, originally from Somalia, left his homeland when he was 16 years old.

He joined the Army in 2005, and has been a valuable asset to his company. Omar serves as his platoon leader's radio operator and often engages in conversations with the local residents. He listens to their issues and conveys them to his leadership while out on a patrol.

Omar is currently working on his packet to apply for citizenship, and said he's excited about serving in the U.S. Army. His profound dedication to his new country, his much-needed native language skill and his enthusiastic approach to the mission in Baghdad equips him, and his platoon, for success.

Omar's leaders think of him as a "diamond in the rough." His skills are now being used to effectively communicate important issues to Baghdad residents.



(Photo by Cpl. John Androski, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment)

Capt. Charles Griswald (left to right), 1st Lt. Michael Meyers and Pfc. Mohamed Omar, all from 1st Bn, 5th Cav. Reg., attached to 2nd BCT, 1st Inf. Div., meet with Iraqi children during a barrier emplacement operation. Omar is a radio operator who uses his native Arabic language skill to communicate with Baghdad residents.

TELEVISION



	8:00p.m.	8:30p.m.	9:00p.m.	9:30p.m.	10:00p.m.	10:30p.m.	11:00p.m.
AFN sports	NFL Live	NBA Fastbreak (8:20)	College Gamenight (8:40)	NFL Replay		NFL Total Access	
AFN prime ATLANTIC	Headline News	ATS/Regional News	All of Us	Eve	I vs 100		Without a Trace
AFN news	MSNBC Live		2007 State of the Union Address				Studio B